

Government Professionals

State and Federal Legislative Research

State legislative searching

The LexisNexis® services allow you to stay current on legislative matters in your state. You can track and retrieve all versions of current bills as well as archived bills easily. You can monitor legislative enactments and proposed state agency regulation changes. LexisNexis will help you streamline your research efforts so you can spend more time analyzing information pertinent to your work.

Search state legislative sources

After signing on, click **Search** and either:

Enter a source name in the **Find a Source** box and click **Go**.

OR

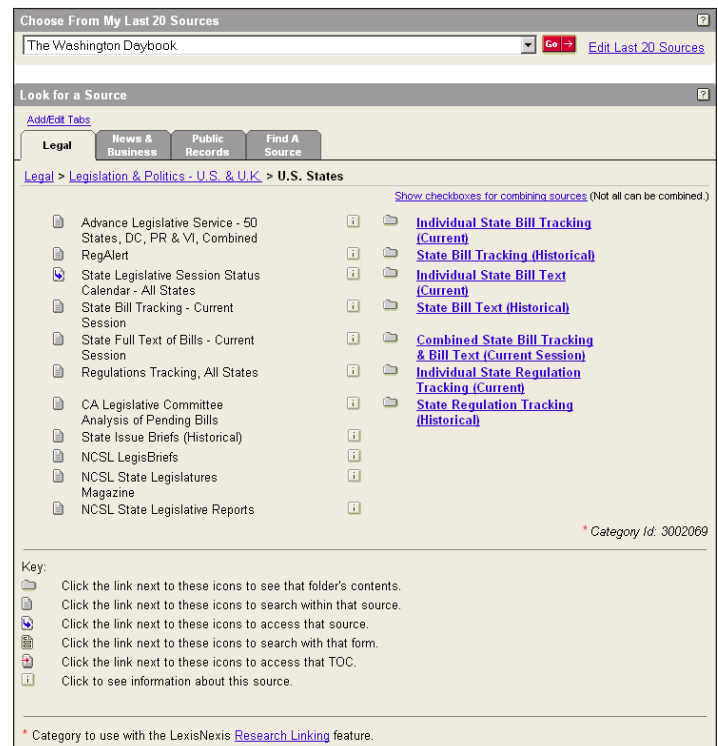
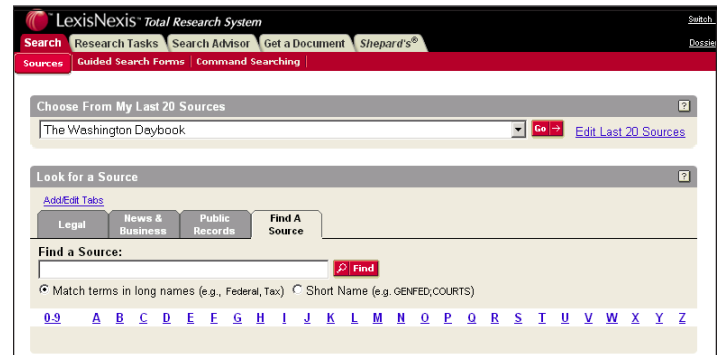
Sign on to LexisNexis at www.lexis.com and:

Click the **Find A Source Tab**, enter the name of the source in which you want to search and click **Find**.

OR

Click **Legislation & Politics - U.S. & U.K.** under the **Legal** tab and continue clicking through sources until you find the one in which you want to search.

- **Advance Legislative Service – 50 States, DC, PR & VI**—enacted legislation from all 50 states that you can search simultaneously
- **State Bill Tracking – Current Session**—bill tracking reports for all bills introduced during the current legislative session in all 50 states
- **State Full Text of Bills – Current Session**—all full-text bills introduced during the current legislative session in all 50 states
- **Regulations Tracking, All States**—summaries of proposed regulations and status actions for individual regulations as promulgated during the current session by the various agencies in each of the 50 states
- **State Legislative Session Status Calendar – All States**—a single document that contains the schedules of all 50 state legislatures
- **NCSL State Legislatures Magazine**—a monthly magazine that provides insight on state issues and politics
- **Individual State Bill Tracking**—current bill tracking reports for each state
- **State Bill Tracking (Historical)**—bill tracking reports by year for all states combined
- **Individual State Bill Text (Current)**—current full-text bills for each state
- **State Bill Text (Historical)**—full-text bills by year for all states combined
- **Combined State Bill Tracking & Bill Text (Current Session)**—bill tracking reports and full-text bills for each of the 50 states



NOTE: Click on the **i** next to a source for information about that source.

State and Federal Legislative Research

Sample searches—state legislative materials

Retrieve the full text of Texas Senate Bill ID and learn its status:

SOURCE: Legal > Legislation & Politics - U.S. & U.K. > U.S. States > Combined State Bill Tracking & Bill Text (Current Session) > **TX Bill Tracking and Full-Text Bills**

SELECT: Terms and Connectors

SEARCH: *s.b. ID*

Find bill-tracking reports for bills from all 50 states that deal with homeland security:

SOURCE: Legal > Legislation & Politics - U.S. & U.K. > U.S. States > **State Bill Tracking – Current Session**

SELECT: Terms and Connectors

SEARCH: *homeland security*

View current legislative session status for all states:

SOURCE: Legal > Legislation & Politics - U.S. & U.K. > U.S. States > **State Legislative Session Status Calendar – All States**

The information displays automatically.

Learn of bills proposed on a particular topic in a particular year in all states:

SOURCE: Legal > Legislation & Politics - U.S. & U.K. > U.S. States > State Bill Tracking (Historical) > **Bill Tracking – All States 2000**

SELECT: Terms and Connectors

SEARCH: *weapon /25 conceal!*

then

To view bills from one particular state, enter additional terms in the Focus Terms box and click **Go**:

ENTER: *AND state (florida)*

Research a state's legislative enactments by topic:

SOURCE: Legal > States Legal – U.S. > Oklahoma > Legislation & Politics > **OK – Oklahoma Advance Legislative Service**

SELECT: Terms and Connectors

SEARCH: *home rule /5 county OR charter OR municip!*

Legislative research tips

Remember to use **news sources** available on the LexisNexis services to review discussion of legislative topics of interest:

SOURCE: News & Business > **News Group File, Most Recent 90 Days (English, Full Text)**

SELECT: Terms and Connectors

SEARCH: *terms (legislation) AND telemarket!*

Investigate **legislative intent** by searching the pertinent state code section in your state's case law by using this format:

SELECT: **Search**

SOURCE: Legal > Cases - U.S. > District & State Courts - by States <**Case law from your state**>

SELECT: Terms and Connectors

SEARCH: *legislat! OR inten! /25 <code section>*

Use **Get a Document** to retrieve house and senate bills, bill-tracking reports, and statute sections by citation. Just click the Get a Document tab, click Citation, fill in the citation, and click Get.

Use **segment searches** to help you get precise search results. From the search box, click the drop-down list under select a segment to display a list of available segments, select a segment, enter your search terms, and click "Add."

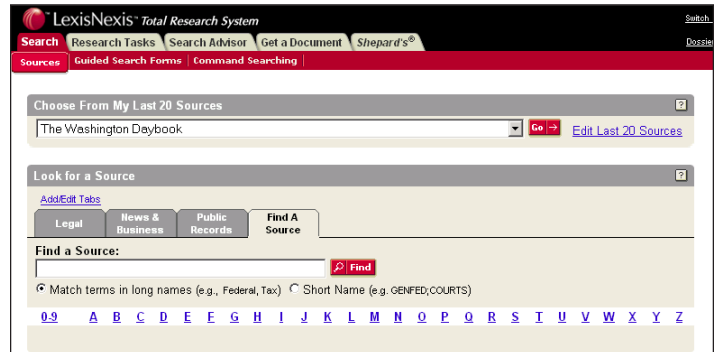
Stay current on issues automatically with the **ECLIPSE™ current awareness tool**. You can monitor any topic of interest on a regular basis by setting up an ECLIPSE search. This feature lets you save and re-run your searches on a daily, business daily, weekly, or monthly basis.

Federal legislative searching

www.lexis.com

For more information,
contact your LexisNexis Representative or call 1.800.543.6862

The LexisNexis services offer dependable, comprehensive information about every step in the U.S. federal legislative process. Whether you are monitoring a federal bill's progress, developing a legislative history on a statute in question, or compiling background on a regulation, the LexisNexis services help you spend less time looking for information and more time analyzing it.



Search U.S. federal legislative sources

Sign on to the LexisNexis service at www.lexis.com and:

Click the **Find a Source** Tab, enter the name of the source in which you want to search, and click **Find**.

OR

Click Legislation & Politics- U.S. & U.K. under the legal tab and the click U.S. congress. Continue clicking until you find the source in which you want to search.

Some examples are:

- **Congressional Full Text Bills – Current Congress**—all bills and resolutions introduced in the current Congress (also see **Congressional Full Text Bills – various Congresses, archived**, located under **Full Text of Bills – Historical**)
- **Bill Tracking Report – Current Congress**—chronicles of current-session bills' major activities (also see **Congressional Bill Tracking Reports – various Congresses, archived**, located under **Bill Tracking – Historical**)
- **Committee Reports**—House and Senate Committee Reports detailing bills' progress in committee
- **Congressional Member Profiles Information**—personal and background information, plus committee assignments, caucus memberships, and staff information
- **Congressional Record, Federal Document Clearing House Congressional Testimony, and Federal Document Clearing House Congressional Hearings Summaries**—detailed floor and committee testimony and debate
- **USCS – Public Laws**—the full text of the enrolled versions of all enacted U.S. Public Laws
- **Federal Register**—the full text of all *Federal Register* documents, invaluable for daily updates on federal agency activity
- **Code of Federal Regulations**—full text of all CFR titles (also see **Archived Code of Federal Regulations** for versions from each year beginning with 1981)



NOTE: Click on the  next to a source for information about that source.

Getting federal legislative documents by citation

After signing on, click **Get a Document**, click By Citation, enter the citation, and click Get. Legislative document citations include:

Document type	Citation format
House bill	<i>107 hr 3378</i>
Senate bill	<i>107 s 1800</i>
Bill tracking report, House	<i>107 bill tracking hr 3378</i>
Bill tracking report, Senate	<i>107 bill tracking s 1800</i>
Congressional Record, House	<i>148 cong rec h 206</i>
Congressional Record, Senate	<i>147 cong rec s 12859</i>
Voting report, House	<i>2001 house roll no 494</i>
Voting report, Senate	<i>2002 senate vote no 313</i>
U.S. Public Law	<i>107 pl 71</i>
U.S. Statute at Large	<i>112 stat 3029</i>
Federal Register document	<i>67 fr 9874</i>
Code of Federal Regulations section	<i>15 cfr 744.13</i>
United States Code Service section	<i>18 uscs 3071</i>

Sample searches—U.S. federal legislative materials

Review pending federal legislation dealing with homeland security and federal assistance to the states, then highlight discussion of rural development:

SOURCE: Legal > Legislation & Politics U.S. & U.K.>
U.S. Congress > **Congressional Full Text**
Bills – Current Congress

SEARCH: *homeland security AND assist! states*

Review your results, then enter the following terms in the Focus Terms box and click Go.

SEARCH: *rural development OR rural business*

Study current legislation to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, P.L. 101-336:

SOURCE: Legal > Legislation & Politics U.S. & U.K.>
U.S. Congress > **Congressional Record, All**
Congresses Combined

SEARCH: *american disabilities act*

Locate bills of interest, then:

Click on the links to get the full text of the bills and, where appropriate, get related legislation and review news coverage of the bills.

Review pending federal legislation that discusses security measures at airports intended to prevent terrorist attacks:

SELECT: **Search**

SOURCE: Legislation & Politics > U.S. Congress >
Congressional Record, All Congresses Combined

SEARCH: *airport security AND terroris! OR*
counterterrorism!

Explore the complete legislative chronology of the 1999 Ticket-to-Work Work Incentive Improvement Act using the act's Public Law citation, 106 P.L. 170:

SELECT: **Get a Document**

ENTER: *106 pl 170*

View the full text of the public law, then click on the links to see news coverage of the law, the bill tracking report, the full text of the bill, and the legislative history document.

How a bill becomes a U.S. law

1. Idea introduced; bill is structured.
2. Bill assigned a bill number and assigned to a committee for consideration.
3. Bill sent to subcommittee for markup.
4. Subcommittee vote. If it passes, it goes to full committee for consideration.
5. Committee vote. If it passes, it moves to the full floor.
6. Full floor debate and vote. If it passes, it goes to the other house of Congress and goes through steps 1 through 5 there.
7. If it passes both houses of Congress, it goes to the President to sign.
8. If the President signs the bill, it is a Public Law. If not, it is considered vetoed. A two-thirds majority of Congress is required to override the veto, or the bill must be re-introduced.

LexisNexis and the Knowledge Burst logo are registered trademarks, and FOCUS, and ECLIPSE are trademarks of Reed Elsevier Properties Inc., used under license. It's How You Know is a trademark of LexisNexis, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc.
© 2004 LexisNexis, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. LP12633-0 1004



LexisNexis®
State & Local Government